

in which all the branches of science deemed useful at this day shall be taught in their highest degree. This would probably require ten or twelve professors for most of whom we shall be obliged to apply to Europe, and most likely to Edinburg. * # * This establishment will most probably be within a mile of Charlottesville and four from Monticello if the system should be adopted at all by our Legislature who meet within a week from this time. My hopes, however, are kept in check by the ordinary character of our State Legislature, the members of which do not generally possess information enough to perceive the important truths that knowledge is power, that knowledge is safety and that knowledge is happiness. (To George Tickner, 1817. F. X., 96.)

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.—I have been above all things solaced by the prospect which opened on us in the event of a non-election of a President; in which case the Federal Government would have been in the situation of a clock or watch run down. There was no idea of force, nor of any occasion for it. A convention invited by the Republican members of Congress with the virtual President and Vice-President would have been on the ground in eight weeks and would have repaired the Constitution where it was defective, and wound it up again. This peaceable and legitimate resource, to which we are in the habit of implicit obedience superseding all appeal to force and being always within our reach, shows a precious principle of self-preservation in our composition, till a change of circumstances shall take place which is not within prospect of any definite period. (To Joseph Priestly, 1801. F. VIII., 22.)

ELECTIONS.—From a very early period of my life I determined never to intermeddle with elections of the people, and have invariably adhered to this determination. -In my own county, where there have been so many elections in which my inclinations were enlisted, I yet never interfered. (From a letter to Chas. Clay, 1792. F. VI., in.)

ELECTIONS.—I proposed soon after coming into office to enjoin the executive officers from intermeddling with elections as inconsistent with the true principles of our Constitution. It